

Claims

What is Claimed is:

1        1. A method for automated input/output job distribution, comprising  
2        the steps of:  
3                detecting an input/output job at a consumable handling device;  
4                reading a machine readable data located on an input/output job cover  
5                page means by a self-propelled, mobile input/output bin; and  
6                determining an owner of the input/output job through the use of the  
7                bin.

1        2. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said detecting step is further  
2        comprised of the step of:  
3                contacting a data center of said input/output job.

1        3. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said detecting step is further  
2        comprised of the step of:  
3                scanning/monitoring said consumable handling device to detect said  
4                input/output job.

1        4. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said consumable handling  
2        device is further comprised of:  
3                a printer.

1        5. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said consumable handling  
2        device is further comprised of:  
3                a printing device.

1        6. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said method is further  
2        comprised of the step of:  
3                outfitting said bin with a locking means.

1       7. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said detecting step is further  
2 comprised of the step of:  
3       wirelessly detecting said input/output job.

1       8. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said cover page means is  
2 further comprised of:  
3       a banner page.

1       9. A method for passively automating an input/output job distribution,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3       detecting an input/output job at a consumable handling device;  
4       contacting a self-propelled, mobile input/output bin; and  
5       sending said bin to said consumable handling device to read a machine  
6 readable data located on a job cover page means in order to transfer said job  
7 to an owner of said job through the use of said bin.

1       10. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said consumable handling  
2 device is further comprised of:  
3       a printer.

1       11. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said consumable handling  
2 device is further comprised of:  
3       a printing device.

1       12. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said method is further  
2 comprised of the step of:  
3       outfitting said bin with a locking means.

1       13. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said detecting step is further  
2 comprised of the step of:  
3       wirelessly detecting said input/output job.

1        14. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said cover page means is  
2 further comprised of:  
3        a banner page.

1        15. A method for actively automating an input/output job distribution,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3        scanning/monitoring a consumable handling device by a self-propelled,  
4 mobile input/output bin;  
5        detecting an input/output job at said consumable handling device by  
6 said bin; and  
7        determining an owner of said job by reading machine readable data  
8 located on a cover page means of said job through the use of said bin.

1        16. The method, as in Claim 15, wherein said consumable handling  
2 device is further comprised of:  
3        a printer.

1        17. The method, as in Claim 15, wherein said consumable handling  
2 device is further comprised of:  
3        a printing device.

1        18. The method, as in Claim 15, wherein said method is further  
2 comprised of the step of:  
3        outfitting said bin with a locking means.

1        19. The method, as in Claim 15, wherein said detecting step is  
2 further comprised of the step of:  
3        wirelessly detecting said input/output job.

1        20. The method, as in Claim 15, wherein said cover page means is  
2 further comprised of:  
3        a banner page.